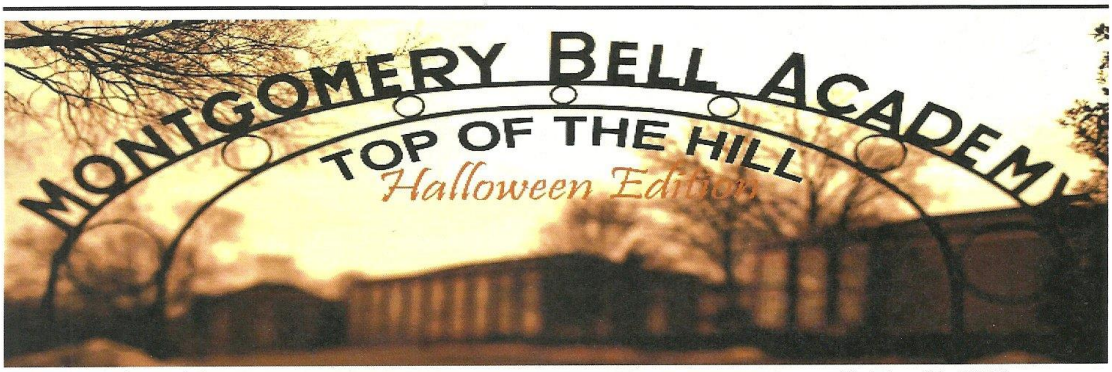


Volume 16 Issue 1 October 31, 2010

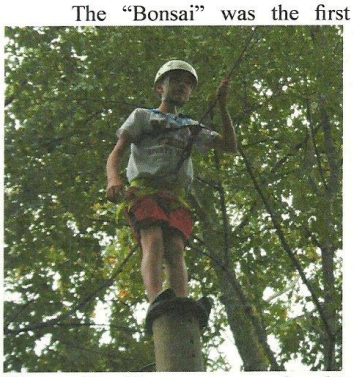
Camp Laney Commentaries

Airborne and Awesome: The Ropes Course

By Carter Lovvorn

It's a bird; it's a plane; no, it's an MBA seventh grader soaring through the air on the "Kamikaze!" The "Kamikaze" is an element at Camp Laney's ropes course. This element was one of the main hits of six different elements. Although many students had a lot of fun thirty feet in the air, there were others who were quite hesitant to do the elements. For those people, they conquered their fear of heights, gained a sense of pride, and their priceless smiles were caught on camera.

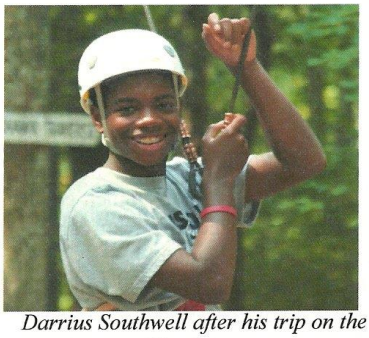
The "Bonsai" was the first element I tried. This element included three parts. At the beginning, the camper climbs a wide ladder about fifteen feet in the air. There, you are hooked to a rope and walk across a wire. For balance, two wires at about hand level are used as a guide to make it across. Next, you are latched onto a rope swing and then you jump and free fall for half a second before being caught by the rope and sent gliding through the air! Someone is on the ground to snag you, ending your time on the Bonsai.



Hunter Hamilton prepares for his "Leap of Faith"

The next element was easily my favorite, "The Leap of Faith." This element was simple. You start by climbing a telephone pole nearly 28 feet in the air. Once at the top, the goal is to try to balance and stand on the thin, shaking pole. Once standing, you look straight ahead and see the trapeze bar. The goal of the "Leap of Faith" is to jump and grab the bar. Some achieved this feat, but most, including myself, grabbed the bar but couldn't grip the trapeze and fell off. Your "Leap of Faith" ends with a slow descent to the ground by the rope holding you up.

The Kamikaze element was easily the fan favorite. This daring and exciting high ropes event begins with a climb up a rope net nearly thirty feet. Once at the top, one has to navigate a bridge of planks, ropes, and logs. The key to this part is to not look down. After the camper navigates the first part of the element, it is time for the fun part.

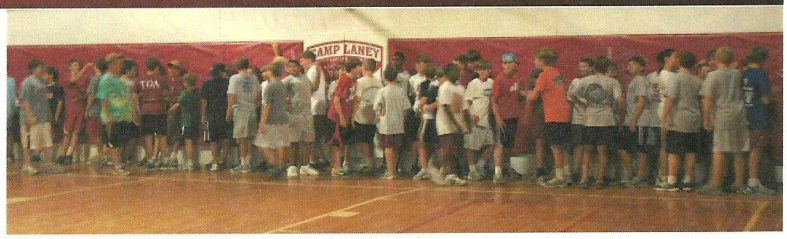


Darrius Southwell after his trip on the Kamikaze.

The "fun part" is a 30 foot rope swing that one is hooked to while standing on a lone log. Once attached, although the daring might not, most close their eyes. Then, with one step you are gone, sailing through the air screaming for joy.

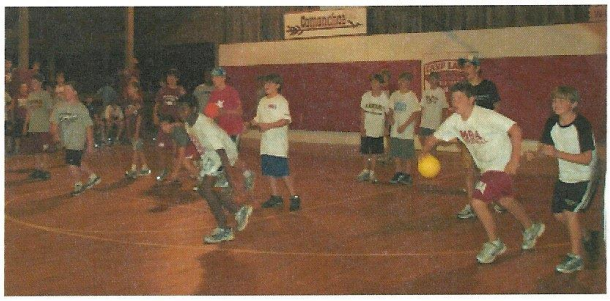
The final element was the "Zip Line." Imagine your normal backyard zip line, but you've never seen a zip line unless you've been to Camp Laney. First, you climb up a tree about twenty feet in the air. Next, you are latched onto a rope and then yell, "FIRE IN THE HOLE!" and leap off of the platform and zip through the air. The goal of the "Zip Line" is to try to touch the tree on the other side of the line. This challenge was accomplished by very few, but those who did touch the tree received a free soda from Mr. Cooper, ending a perfect day on the ropes course.

Predator and Prey: Camp Laney Bombardi

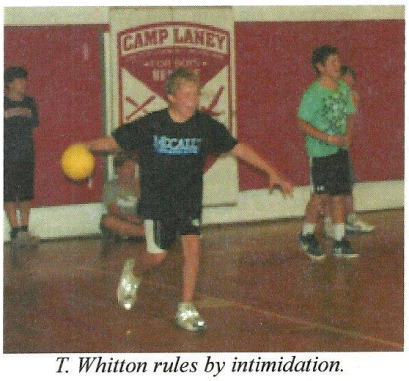


By Richard Scherrer

The whistle was blown. All of the 113 boys rushed at the foam balls. The Bombardi battle had begun. Balls were flying left and right, and it was pretty much equal casualties until the other team carpet-bombed us. A hundred balls flew into the air, while people squealed and bumped in the crowded gym to avoid the carpet-bombing. Most of us were out, so we witnessed what I like to allude to as "Custer's Last Stand." The remaining person on our team grabbed as many balls as he could carry, wildly throwing the balls at a sea of players he knew he could never win against. Our player dodged and caught balls, until an oblique blow caught him off guard, and the game ended. Yes, Bombardi is just another name for dodgeball, and some people cheated and others rampaged, but I think Bombardi was the best experience. I mean, swinging off the Kamikaze is fun, but Bombardi is **battling**. Many of the boys like battling, whether it be *Call of Duty* or just socking your rival with a foam ball. It is when all boys get that adrenaline rush, trying to make a basket in the basketball hoop to save your team from losing. Bombardi is a game of predator and prey, and ultimately that is what makes it so popular. One team is always the predator, the other the prey. The predator is the one who is winning, who throws slightly more balls, who is more accurate. The predator slowly mows down the opposing team, starting with the important players, then ending with the "Survival People." ("Survival People" are the players in the back who see how long they can last before getting hit with a ball). The prey is the one who tries desperately to fight back, with a pitiful amount of people who try to make "the shot." "The shot" is what makes the game totally unpredictable, what allows the prey a small chance to win. When a ball is thrown into the basketball hoop of your enemy, then you have a jailbreak, and if you throw the orange ball in the enemy's hoop, then you win the game. While making the shot sounds impossible, in one game we had six made shots, three on each side. Dodgeball games are totally unpredictable, however, even without "the shot." There are balls flying this way and that, war whoops, battle cries, zombies, and bananas. After the game, the day comes to an end. The dodgeball games are the last highlight of the day. To me, they are the best part of the day.



Predators chasing down their prey.



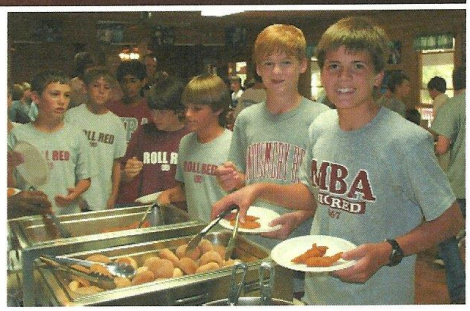
T. Whitton rules by intimidation.

CAMP LANEY

Food and Free Time: A Five-Star Experience

By Jack Litchfield

After several hours of hard-core ropes courses, team building exercises, and meeting new friends each day, the 113 boys in the seventh grade were all in dire need of a good, filling meal. Luckily, the kitchen staff was well prepared to do just that. We were served everything from chicken fingers to spaghetti and many more tasty options. The food was great, and so were the experiences the seventh graders had in the mess hall. The meals in the mess hall gave us, the seventh grade boys, many opportunities to make new friends and share the amazing times we had been having with our groups conquering the ropes courses.

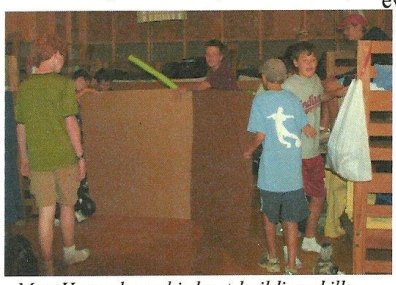


After being fed, there was normally time for us to blow off steam and have free time. There were a variety of popular activities to do during free time. Students played either ultimate Frisbee, or a game called "Pit Ball," or soccer in an octagonal pit, but a majority of the students raced to the outdoor basketball court, so they could be picked on a team to play basketball. These activities provided even further time for the seventh grade to have fun and meet new people. I believe that the meals and free time enjoyed by the seventh grade boys were a perfect way to tie together all of the great experiences we had.

The *Sleeping Beauty* is Best Boat

By Alvin Zhang

"Ready! Set! Go!" shouted one of the teachers at Camp Laney, and immediately boats composed of flimsy cardboard and tarp plunged into the icy water of the river. This was the boat contest, the last and what I think was the best event at Camp Laney. In this event, each cabin had 1½ hours to build boats out of noodles, cardboard, tape, rope, and plastic tarp. We then tested how many people could cross the river and come back without it sinking. This event was quite difficult and took a lot of teamwork, imagination, and common sense for a cabin to succeed. It also took a lot of courage to dip into the icy water, supported only by a flimsy frame of cardboard and cheap duct tape. However, despite the difficulties, a few boats managed to float and even pull several people across the river and back.



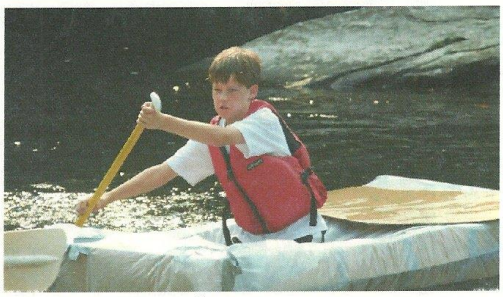
Matt Hopp shows his boat-building skills.

The Winning Crew of the Sleeping Beauty

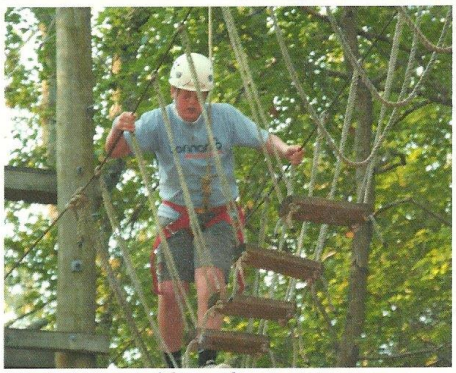
In the end, it was Cabin 11's boat, the *Sleeping Beauty,* which was victorious, with a total of seven people rowing across the river and rowing back without sinking.

Overall, I think that the boat contest was a great activity to end the seventh-grade experience at Camp Laney, for it promoted teamwork and imagination. Although not every boat floated and managed to carry people back and forth across the water, everyone was a winner.

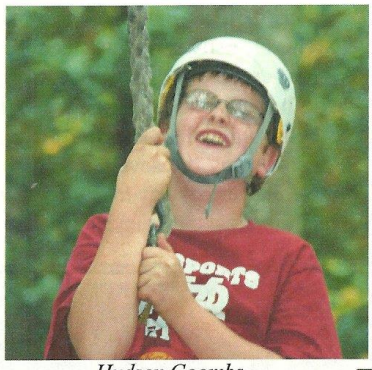
CAMP LANEY



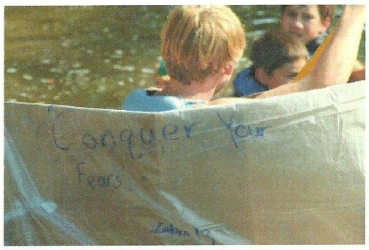
Sam Anderson rows to victory with the Sleeping Beauty.

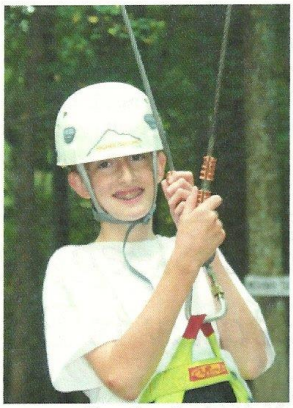


Werner Bradshaw takes it a step at time.

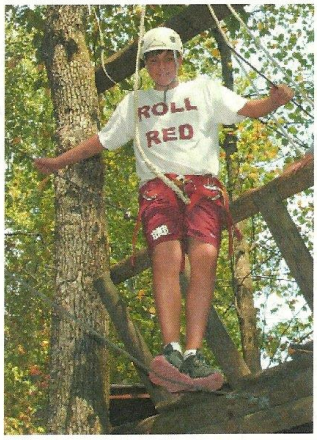


Hudson Coombs

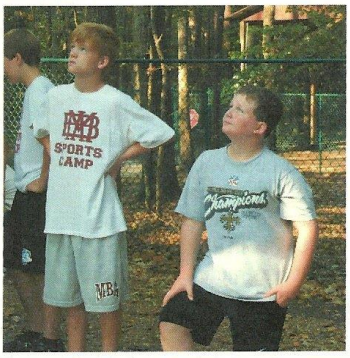




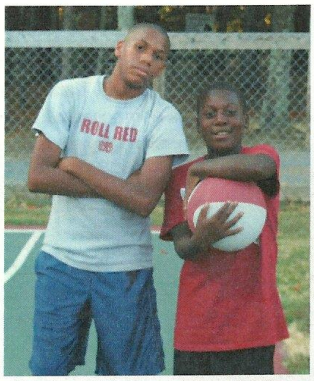
Sam Jacobson



Gray Adelman

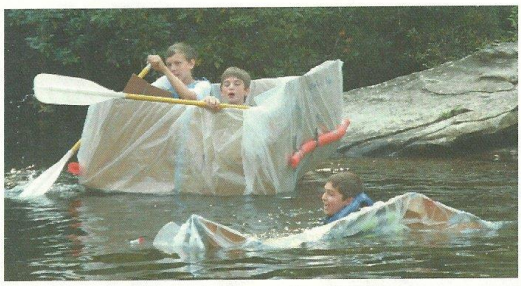


Will Johnson and Sam Galanter seem to be thinking the same thing: "Do we really have to climb that high?"

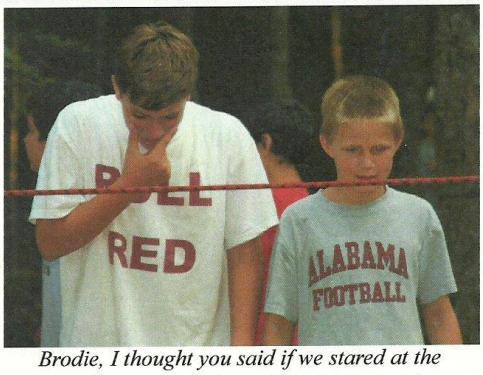


Jordan Wilson and Harold Turks

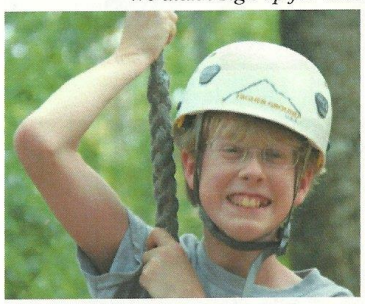
CAMP LANEY



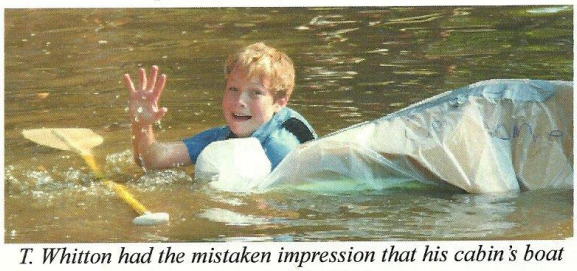
We didn't sign up for this!!!!



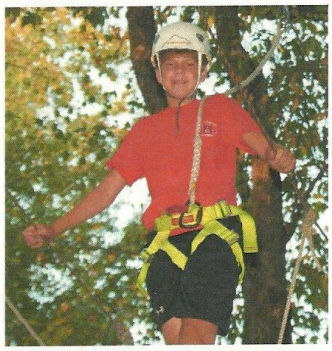
Brodie, I thought you said if we stared at the rope long enough it would turn into candy.



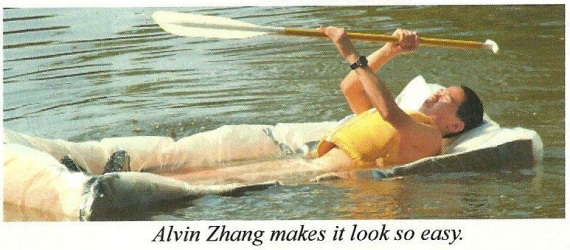
Grayson Fettroll loves the zip line!



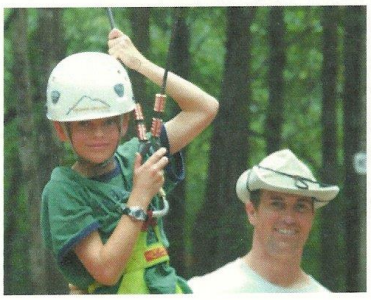
T. Whitton had the mistaken impression that his cabin's boat was unsinkable!!



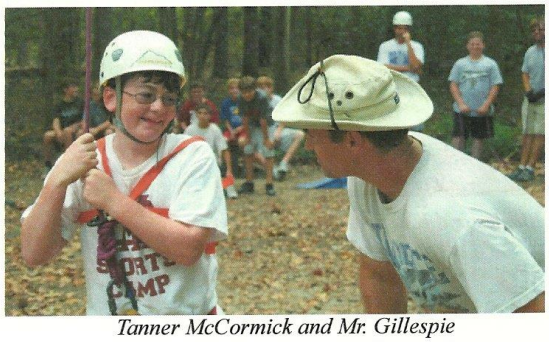
Glen Coleman



Alvin Zhang makes it look so easy.

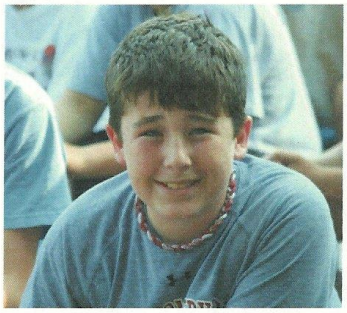


Richard Scherrer

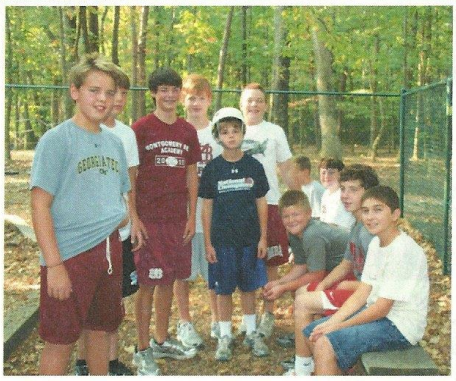


Tanner McCormick and Mr. Gillespie

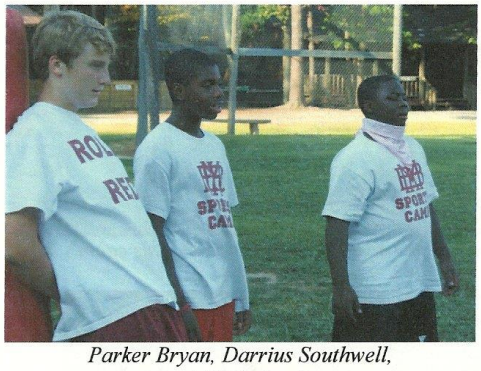
CAMP LANEY



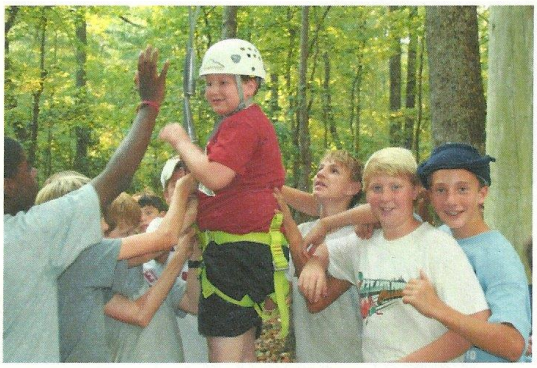
Bronson Bell



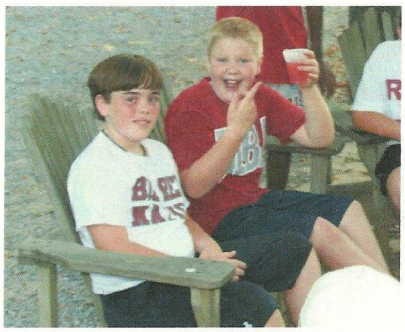
Charlie Bailey



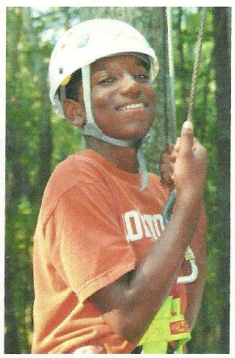
Parker Bryan, Darrius Southwell, and D'On Coofer.



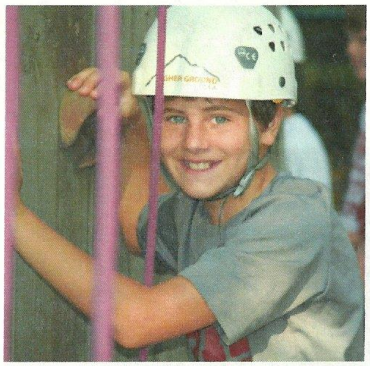
Michael Mappes sails off the Bonzai to a waiting crowd.



Sam Rhodes and K.P. Frazier seem to hve-about the Powerade.



Sam Curry



Christian Williams

ON THE HILL

Microbes Welcome New Director

By Kang Huh and Matt Miccioli

On Thursday, October 21, Matt Miccioli and I went to do a double-interview of Mrs. Stewart at break. In case you don't know who Mrs. Stewart is, she is our new Junior School director and also teaches 8th grade Algebra I. We uncovered many new things we didn't know about her and discovered some things she wants to do in the future and/or what she has already done.

MM (Matt): What attracted you to MBA?

MS (Mrs. Stewart): I really liked the fact that MBA is a single-gender education program, and I really favor the curriculum. I also like the theme of Gentleman, Scholar, and Athlete.

KH (Kang): Do you have any past experience in education?
MS: I've taught math for twenty years, and I've also been a director of a Junior and Senior High.

MM: What are your favorite parts about the school?
MS: I really like the students and working with them.

Mrs. Fran Stewart
Director of the Junior School

KH: From what you've seen, what could the students improve on?
MS: I think we need to work on organization and time management. We also need to get more things turned in. I also think that there are some interaction issues between students, that's been affected by the media.

MM: Do you have any future plans for the Junior School in terms of service?
MS: Well, we've made one step with the Directors' Cabinet getting started, but I think we could make some more connections with the high school. Also, we need to step up and take a more leading role in service and "adopt" parts of the campus reserved for the Junior School.

KH: What other plans do you have?
MS: I want to start a summer jump-start program. Also, when the new 7th graders come in, I think we need to build strong connections and have a "common language." Also, we are thinking of renovating Massey to make it visually stimulating. I personally want a wall with some famous quotes on it.

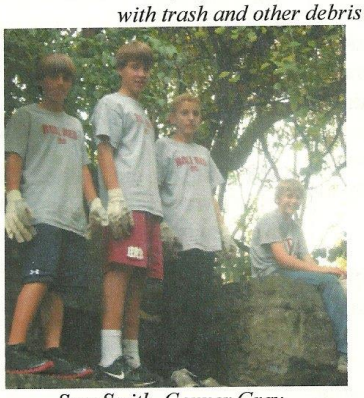
MM: Do you have any hobbies?
MS: I like to read and try to read at least a book a week. I'm particularly interested in books having to do with politics, specifically about presidents and first ladies. I also like English and history. In my free time, I like to walk and knit.
KH: I saw this in another interview (Nicholas' interview with Mr. Merideth), and I was wondering… what is the weirdest thing you have ever eaten?
MS: Haggis and Blood Sausage, which were both in Scotland. But the haggis was a little harder for me to eat. (In case you didn't know, haggis is a Scottish delicacy made by stuffing a sheep's stomach with its heart, liver and lungs, well chopped with onion, oatmeal, fat, spice, and salt and cooked in stock. How appetizing!)

We enjoyed interviewing Mrs. Stewart. She is a great person and Junior School director. If you don't know Mrs. Stewart yet, stop by her office and say 'hi.' I think as a Junior School we should get to know her better as a person, not just as our director.

ON THE HILL

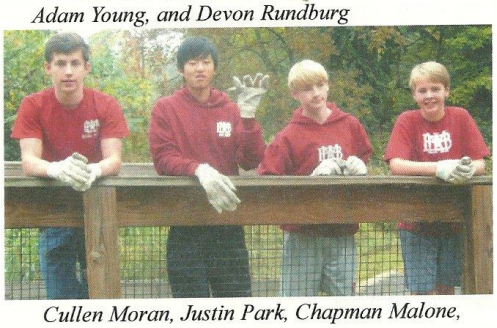
Big Brother/Little Brother Service Project

While most MBA students were taking the PSAT on October 13th, Senior big brothers and seventh-grade little brothers were involved in service projects in the community. In these photos, they are cleaning up Richland Creek, still clogged with trash and other debris that washed downstream during the flood last spring.

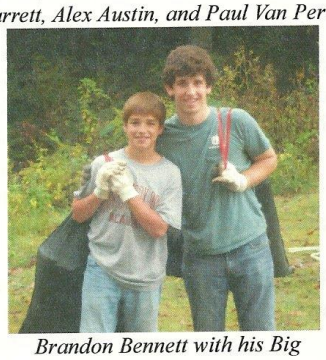


Sam Smith, Conner Gray, Adam Young, and Devon Rundburg

Nick Dreher, Nick Kohler, Harrison Mathews, Clay Garrett, Alex Austin, and Paul Van Pervis



Cullen Moran, Justin Park, Chapman Malone, and Ro Stevens

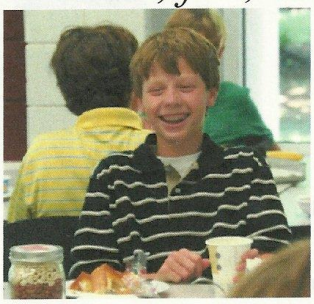


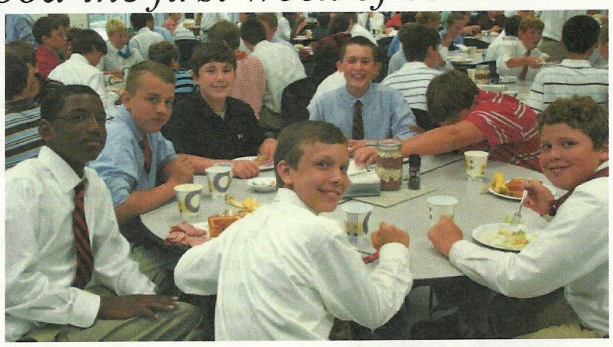
Brandon Bennett with his Big Brother, Patrick Meehan

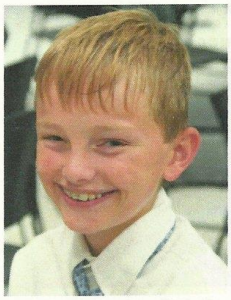
Photos Courtesy of Dr. Call Fuller

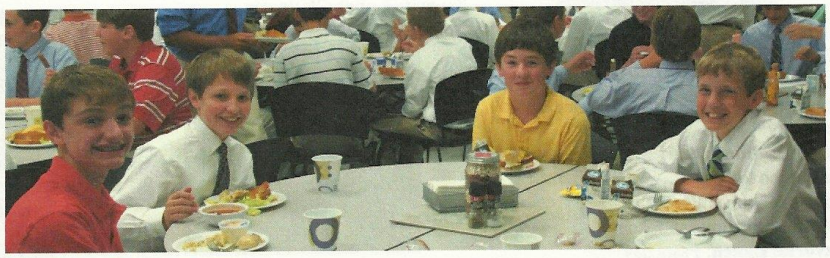
ON THE HILL

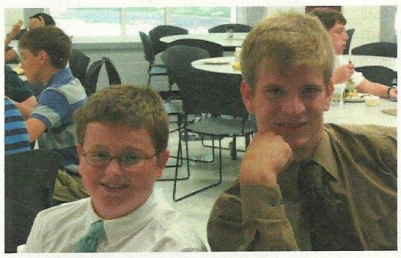
Friends, fun, and food-the first week of school!

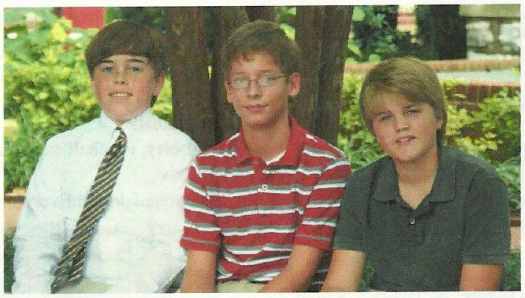


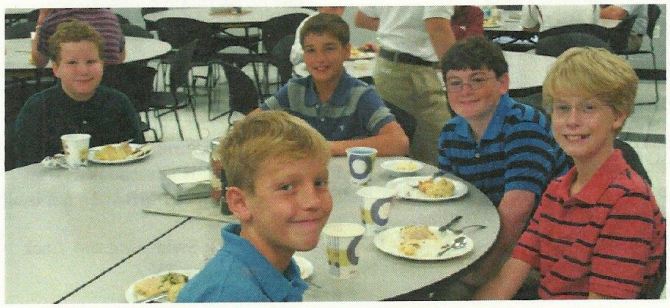


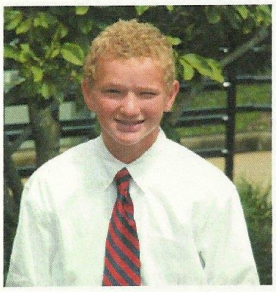






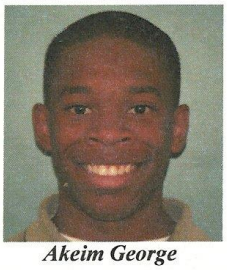






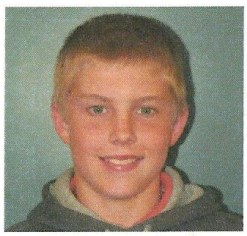
WELCOME

New Students of the Class of 2015



Akeim George

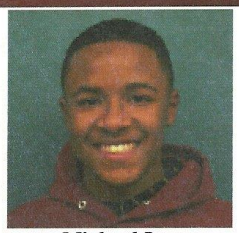
Previous school: Thurman Francis Arts Academy
Favorite thing about MBA: The classes are not too long.
Sports he plays: Football, Track
Hobbies: Playing saxophone
Favorite Lunch: Pasta day



Jack Goodrum

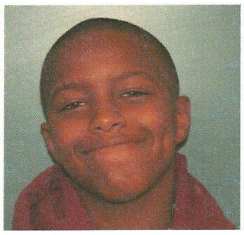
Previous school: St. Henry's School
Favorite thing about MBA: The privileged list
Sports he plays: Football, Wrestling, and Baseball
Hobbies: Hunting, Fishing
Favorite Lunch: Breakfast day

Interviews by William Richardson



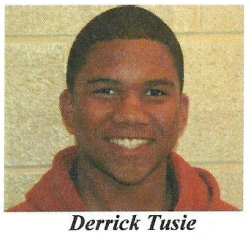
Michael Lacey

Previous school: Oliver Middle School
Favorite thing about MBA: The companionship of all the boys.
Sports he plays: Football, Wrestling, and Track
Hobbies: reading, video games, movies
Favorite Lunch: Pasta day



Jeylan Dunigan

Previous school: Head Magnet School
Favorite thing about MBA: The food
Sports he plays: Football, Wrestling, and Basketball
Hobbies: Football and Basketball with friends
Favorite Lunch: Everything

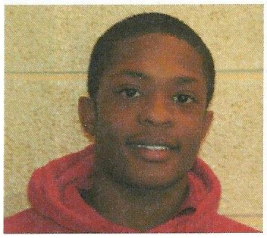


Derrick Tusie

Previous School: JFK Middle School
Favorite thing about MBA: The long lunch period
Sports he plays: Football, Wrestling, Basketball, and Baseball
Hobbies: Video Games
Favorite Lunch: Hot Wings

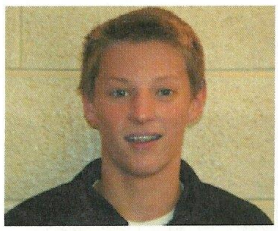
Josh Rickerman

Previous School: Newton Middle School (Connecticut)
Favorite thing about MBA: The food
Sports he plays: rifle
Hobbies: Video games and reading
Favorite Lunch: Pizza



C.J. Sanders

Previous school: Woodland Hills Academy (California)
Favorite thing about MBA: Relationships with my friends.
Sports he plays: Football and Track
Hobbies: Video games
Favorite Lunch: Pizza

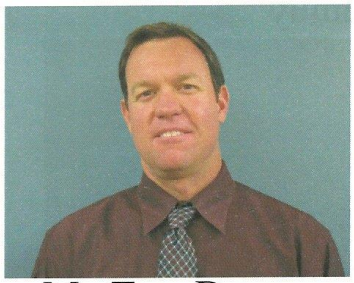


Chatham Dobbs

Previous school: Homeschooled
Favorite thing about MBA: That it is all guys.
Sports he plays: Swimming and Track
Hobbies: Watching TV
Favorite Lunch: Tacos

TO THE HILL

New Faculty in the Junior School



Mr. Tom Boysen

By Matt Miccioli

Mr. Boysen is a new teacher at MBA this year and will be the new head coach of the varsity tennis team.

Top of the Hill: What attracted you to MBA?
Tom Boysen: I wanted to continue to work with sports, but I also wanted to become a teacher, and I discovered that many of MBA's coaches are also teachers.

TOH: What has been your favorite part of MBA so far?
TB: My favorite part has been interacting with the Junior School students during lunch and at Camp Laney.
TOH: What level of tennis did you play, and where?
TB: I played tennis in college at the University Of Central Florida (UCF)

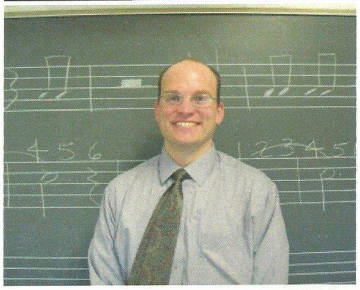
TOH: Where else did you coach before coming to MBA?
TB: I coached junior tennis in Florida for many years, then coached professionals on tour for three years, and coached at Vanderbilt for five years.

TOH: Have you gotten to work with the MBA team yet?
TB: I have been able to do strength and conditioning with the team, and I have also been able to do a few one-on-one private practices with several team members.

TOH: What classes will you be teaching next year?
TB: I will be teaching Junior School English.

TOH: What are some of your hobbies?
TB: I love movies; I am taking a creative writing class; and I have a golden retriever who I love to play with.

TOH: Most importantly, Federer or Nadal?!?
TB: Federer!



Mr. Tyler Merideth

By: Nicholas Heim

A few weeks ago, I sat down with Mr. Tyler Merideth to talk to him about his favorite things: MBA and life. He is definitely a great guy to have at MBA.

Top of the Hill: Mr. Merideth, why did you come to MBA?
Tyler Merideth: I came to MBA because I heard through the grapevine that Dr. Cassel was retiring, and I thought it would be a great experience to work at MBA.

TOH: What do you like about Montgomery Bell Academy?
TM: I really like that at MBA, students and parents want to have an environment that is truly preparing for college and life.

TOH: If you weren't a musician, what would you be?
TM: I would want to be a point guard for the Miami Heat because everyone goes there now!

TOH: What is the weirdest food you've ever eaten?
TM: The weirdest thing I have eaten would be baby squid (it looked like a baby squid).

TOH: Do you have a family?
TM: I have been married for 4 years, and one day my wife and I would like to have children.

TOH: What is your favorite song, and who sang it?
TM: My favorite song has to be *Oh, Had I A Golden Thread* by Eva Cassidy.

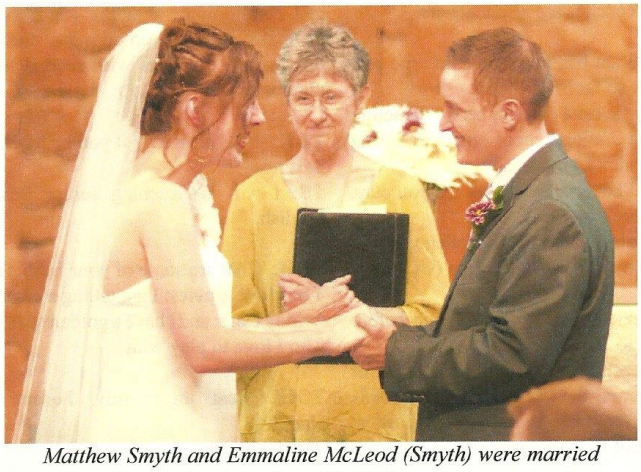
TOH: What is your favorite board game?
TM: My favorite board game (right now) is Lost Cities: a combination of Risk and Uno. It really is fun.
TOH: If you had one wish for MBA, what would it be?
TM: If I had one wish for MBA, I would want a really nice rehearsal facility with nice practice rooms and pianos.

As you can see, Mr. Merideth is a cool guy. Drop by to say hello to him some time in the music department.

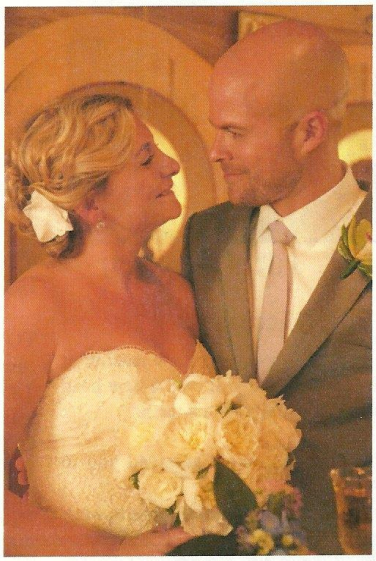
ON THE HILL

Congratulations!

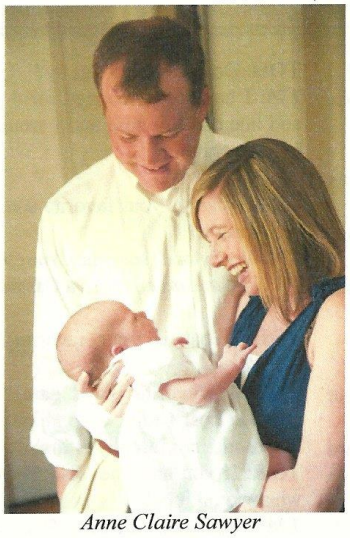
New Additions to the MBA Family



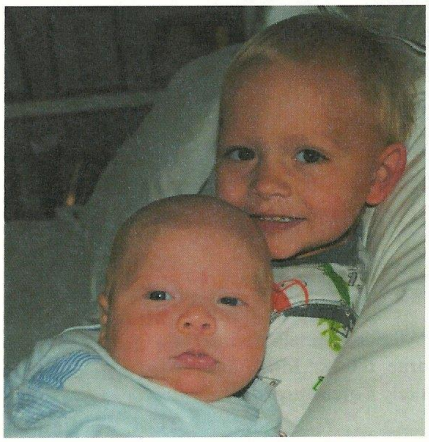
Matthew Smyth and Emmaline McLeod (Smyth) were married on June 28, 2010.



Erin Amelia Carnes (Schumacher) and K.J. Schumacher exchanged wedding vows on June 12, 2010.

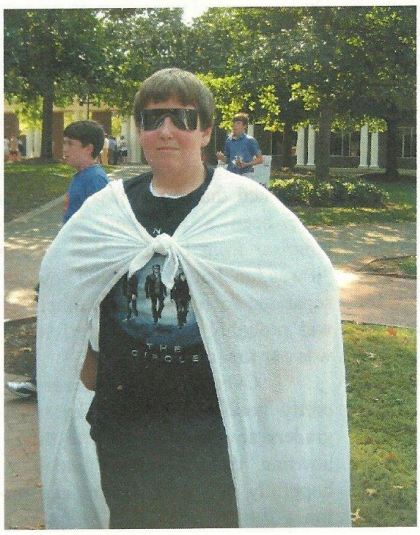


Anne Claire Sawyer was born on July 26, 2010 to Mr. Robert Sawyer and his wife, Claire. Siblings, Atticus and Scout Sawyer (both yellow labs) adore their new sister.

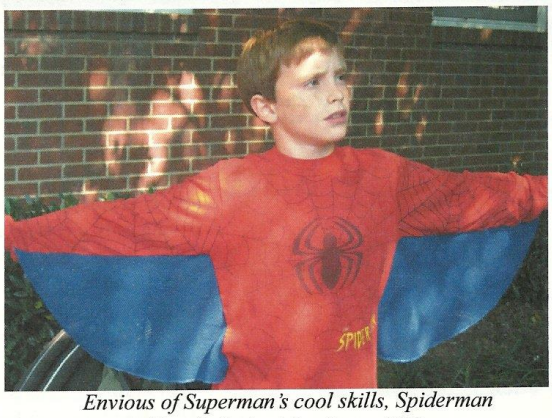


Thomas Barton McGugin was born on August 14, 2010. His older brother, Daniel George is excited to have a new football buddy.

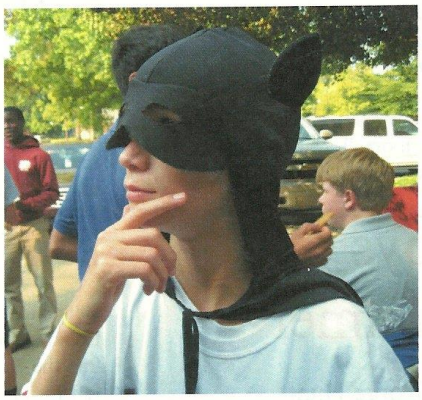
SPIRIT WEEK



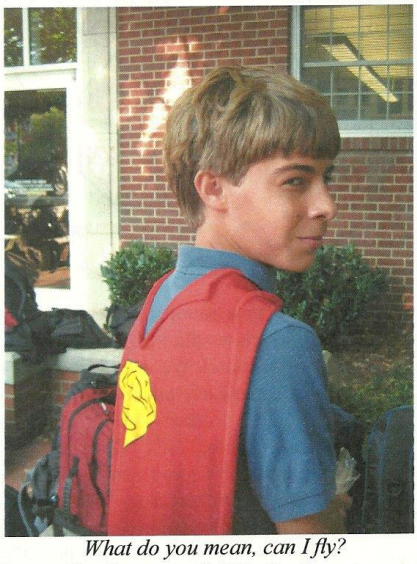
Look out! Under those shades, Dark Hero, Seth Cook has an evil stare that would make even Mr. Anderson afraid.



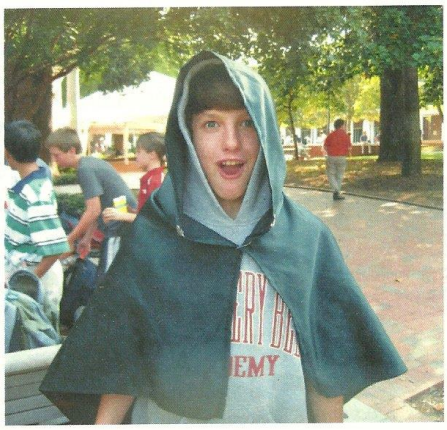
Envious of Superman's cool skills, Spiderman (Sam Bellet) wishes he could fly.



I've been told that the ears really help you with the ladies--wait, I don't need any help--I'm Cole Jones!



What do you mean, can I fly? I'm Superman!! Chip Brothers is my alter ego.



Ryan Barrick is totally shocked that someone would think he is a Hobbit.

ON THE HILL

First 7th Grade Mixer: Laser Tag and an Obstacle Course

By Jack Litchfield

Seventh-grade boys and girls from MBA and Harpeth Hall gathered at Harpeth Hall on the afternoon of October 3rd for their first mixer despite being weary from the previous night's game against BGA and the seventh grade football team's win over BA. Although most boys were somewhat reluctant to go, a good number showed up for the mixer. For the main activity, a blow-up obstacle course was inflated, but the more popular option was laser tag. Inflatable "bunkers" (barriers) were set up and about ten guns were available for each team. The game experience was mildly realistic because of each player having only a certain amount of ammo before having to reload and "dying" after being hit fifteen times. The laser tag was probably more enjoyable for the COD-obsessed boys, but the girls participated too. The laser tag was entertaining but not perfect considering we were playing in broad daylight and had a minimal amount of playing time.

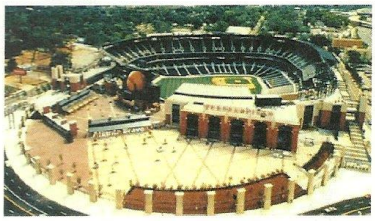
After playing several rounds of laser tag, the boys swarmed the food area, while most girls socialized. Then, our first mixer came to a close. Opinions about the mixer varied; some thought that the mixer was a great way to spend their Saturday afternoon. Nick Dreher showed favor toward the mixer saying, "The mixer was exciting and fun. I hope there's another mixer soon." Carter Lovvorn thought that "laser tag was a fun idea." Others disagreed and would have rather stayed at home to watch college football. Conner Gray mentioned that the experience "could have been a lot better." Madeline Komisar from Harpeth Hall said that "it was fun, but the girls and boys were separated for most of the time." This was probably to be expected, since it was our first mixer.

Overall, the first mixer was a pretty good experience. The seventh graders now look forward to the next bowling themed mixer, which will hopefully be less awkward and more fun.

Boys of Summer

By George Hunt

On July 21st many eager rising eighth and ninth graders boarded the buses for the beginning of the baseball trip. We were going to visit parks in Tennessee, North Carolina, and Georgia.



The Gwinnett Braves' Stadium

Our first stop was in Chattanooga to watch the Chattanooga Lookouts play a game. First, we settled into the Holiday Inn Express, and then left for dinner at Chili's. Although the original plan was to eat at Buffalo Wild Wings, we could not because it wasn't there anymore. We then left for the game to witness a Lookouts win.

Our next stop was to see the Gwinnett Braves play. Everyone agreed that the Braves' stadium was the coolest and most fun stadium that we visited. A lot of us got to participate in games on the field such as a sack race, a trivia game, and a cookie-eating contest with Santa Claus. After this game our daily routine began.

We would wake up around nine and eat breakfast at the hotel, eat lunch somewhere such as Chik-Fil-A, then either play a sandlot game, go to the mall, which we did in Gwinnett, or just stay at the hotel. We would then go eat dinner somewhere and go to the game.

Our other stops included Winston-Salem, NC, Durham, NC, Kannapolis, NC, and Sevierville, TN, which was our last stop. This trip was very fun, and I would recommend it to anyone no matter how much they like baseball.

ON THE HILL

Homeroom Representatives 2010-2011

EIGHTH GRADE

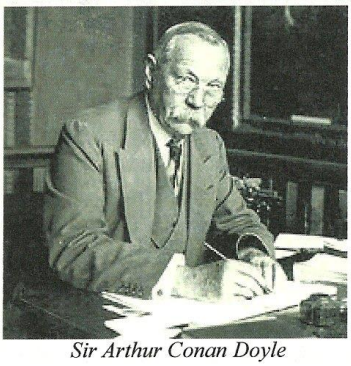
Mr. Anderson: Hunter Wims, Henry Rogers, Diego Martinez, Steve Wood
Mr. Brown: Matt Miccioli, Logan Taylor, Blake Solarek, Jackson Hughes
Mrs. Christeson: Seth Cook, James Throckmorton, Neal Hawkins, Luke Barrick
Ms. Ellery: Kang Huh, Ryan Barrick, Wren McFadden, Austin Rolfe
Mr. McMurray: Louis Brown, Aaron Kaplan, Charles Hunter, Parks Ball
Mr. Russ: Richard Thornton, Anthony Swenson, Will Pearson
Mr. Spiegl: Cole Jones, John Tipps, William Snow, Cameron Travis
Ms. Williams: Bill Leftwich, Geoffrey Holland, Jeylan Dunigan, Billy Lynch
Mr. Woolsey: Sam Bellet, Jackson Rich, Jacob Lothers, John Hazen

SEVENTH GRADE

Mr. Barclay: Gray Adelman, Ethan Mowery, Hayne Hamilton, Hunter Hamilton
Mr. Cooper: David Gaw, Jordan Rosdeutscher, Brandon Bennett, Nick Dreher
Mr. Gillespie: Michael Mappes, Carter Lovvorn, Dani Biegl, Peter Briggs
Mr. Jacques: Parker Bryan, Glenn Coleman, Zac Jernigan, Canaan Owens
Mr. McGugin: Will Eskew, Sam Curry, Jackson Siktberg, Jamie Payne
Mrs. Roberts: Robert Garstin, Will Emerson, Benjamin Graves, Hudson Coombs
Mr. Russell: Grant Green, Robert Dedman, Joe Noser, Sam Rhodes
Mr. Sawyer: Drew Gordon, Sam Smith, Brinton Hoover, Winston Hewitt
Ms. Vaughan: Jack Litchfield, Chris Saxon, Conner Gray, Devon Rundberg
Mr. Wims: Wes Richardson, Charlie Bailey, Nadir Saleh, Rishi Mallipeddi

FEATURES

Serializing novels was a common practice in the 19th century, many writers, including SirArthur Conan Doyle of Sherlock Holmes fame, published their work in installments in newspapers and magazines. This is the second year that the editors of the paper have decided to serialize a short story. This story will continue in each issue until its conclusion in our final issue in May. Enjoy!



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Locke Jameson

Episode I: The Cursed World We Live In

By Locke Jameson

The world shook all around me as I watched the bus explode with my brother, sister, and parents in it. I looked around. There was blood—blood was all around me as I saw the unfortunate bystanders near the bus scream in agony. If only they had been in the bus they would have died instantly and not have had to endure the torture of a slow, tormenting death. I looked down at the wound in my chest inflicted by a stray shard of flying glass. "Funny," I thought as I started to pass out, "it doesn't hurt."

Light poured into my eyes. I was in a room with a single window. My head hurt as I tried to remember the events of late. "My name, what is my name? Alfred, yes that's it, Alfred Cook. How old am I? I am 16. Why am I here? My parents were on a business trip to Afghanistan. I was taking my time to get to the bus as my parents implored me to hurry up, and then it exploded. Why am I alive…No answer? Why didn't I die? I have no reason to live. I think I want to die." A young man about my age entered the room.

He says hello in Dari, one of the languages in Afghanistan. I studied Dari in school and could piece together a few sentences. I asked him if he could speak English.

He replied, "Yes, I can. I am surprised you can speak our language."

"Never was any good at it," I said. "What is your name?"

"Aadel-it means 'reasonable' in English."

"Nice to meet you, Aadel. I have a feeling we will be good friends."

A year later, I was running around the shopping district with Aadel and a group of twenty boys chasing after us. I asked Aadel, "What did I do wrong? I only asked if I could have that date back."

He replied, "No you didn't—you accidentally called him a fat cow."

I rolled my eyes. One year of living here, and I still mess up their language, I thought to myself. We turned a corner and hid in a nearby alley. We waited until the shouts of anger died down.

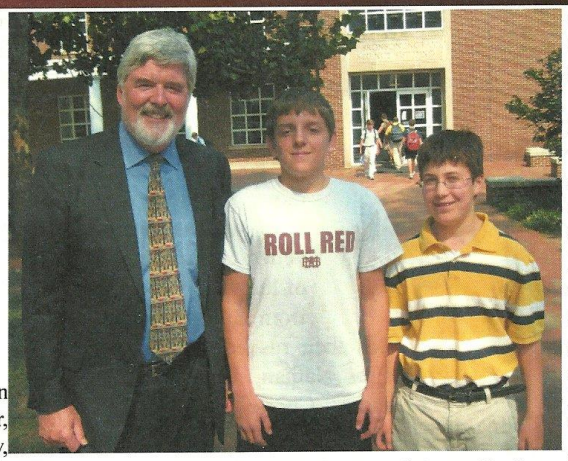
Aadel said,"Now, if you're done angering the local streetboys, let's get this food to my mother." Aadel's family had been kindly taking care of me for the past year. I also have been helping with the family business. They run a restaurant called The Star. It was the most popular restaurant in town. After work the family will sit down for the evening meal. And when we are finished, Aadel and I wash the dishes. But tonight was different. We got home and everything was dark. We saw Aadel's mother walk out. She looked like she had been crying.

She said, "Aadel, we need to talk."

--To be continued . . .

Dr. Michael Thompson: A Career with Boys

By Aaron Kaplan



Dr. Thompson with Cameron Travis and Aaron Kaplan

Dr. Michael Thompson, an accomplished psychologist and mentor, spoke to MBA students on Tuesday, September 21, 2010. Dr. Thompson has served as a school counselor and has written multiple books on his experiences with boys, which contain his advice on raising boys. Cameron Travis and I had the privilege of interviewing him and talking with him about his life.

Dr. Thompson's inspiration for his profession as a boy's psychologist originated when he was a child. He grew up in Manhattan, which his once slightly "arrogant" self thought was the "center of the world." Dr. Thompson attended two different boys' schools before going to college. He attended the Collegiate School for Boys and the Millbrook School, a boarding school that had its own zoo. This aspect attracted Dr. Thompson to the school, and he spent time there taking care of animals. From there, he attended Harvard University and was a teacher for five years before returning to Harvard to get a PhD in Psychology. When asked what drew him to the field, Dr. Thompson replied that as a boy, he felt anxious and "defective," and that his mother was an alcoholic and often depressed. As a child, he noticed that people would tell him things and discuss issues with him. He found that he enjoyed this, and therefore pursued it as a profession. He told us that he is interested in "all aspects of life."

Dr. Thompson is very well known for his books and insights into the lives of boys. Dr. Thompson spent fifteen years as a psychologist at a co-ed school and counseled primarily girls, as it was perceived by boys as "unmanly" to go to a counselor. When he started a new job at an all boys' school, he counseled many reluctant boys, and incorporated new techniques in his work. This led to writing one of his most eminent books, *Raising Cain*, which discussed the burden that boys feel in having to look strong in which he expresses the importance of talking about one's feelings.

Although many probably think of Dr. Thompson as an avid writer, he told us that he does not actually like the process of writing. He likes to have written and to think about writing. When asked which of his books he most enjoyed writing, he responded with *Speaking of Boys*, which consists mainly of questions and answers. Dr. Thompson's most frequently asked question is about how to "get a fifteen year-old to talk."

Dr. Thompson has traveled around the world about six times and has visited almost all of the countries that he wishes to see. His favorite place that he visited was South Africa, which greatly influenced and intrigued him. He found that the "breakdown of tribal culture" and the transitions between regular life as a South African tribe to cities has broken traditions and is harmful to the boys. Dr. Thompson also witnessed older men teaching younger boys to fight with sticks, and in a sense, creating a "rite of passage" for the boys.

Dr. Thompson is currently working on another book, *Homesick and Happy*, which emphasizes the importance of a boy separating from his parents and the effect this has on a boy's growth. Over the summer, Dr. Thompson visited multiple overnight summer camps and observed the campers as part of his research for this book.

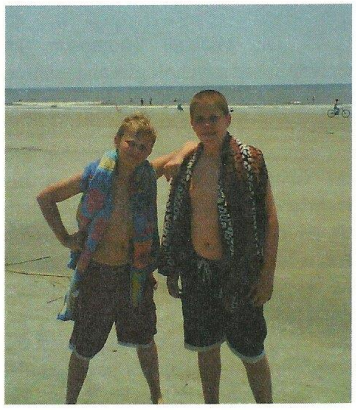
Throughout Dr. Thompson's many years as a psychologist, he has found that his most useful piece of advice is that "boy development is trustworthy," and that parents should not "panic."

We greatly appreciate the time that Dr. Thompson spent with us, and we are very glad that he was able to speak at MBA. To learn more about Dr. Thompson, please visit http://www.michaelthompson-phd.com/.

Shark Bait

By Cameron Travis

On a sunny day on Hilton Head Island in South Carolina, June 28th to be exact, Bill Leftwich, a current MBA 8th grade student was horse-playing with his friend, Nathan Roberts, on the beach. They were in the ocean when suddenly Bill felt a bump against his left leg, thinking that maybe Nathan was playing a trick on him, Bill turned only to find Nathan about ten feet away. At first, Bill tried to jerk his leg away, but a four-foot Black-Tip Reef shark had its mouth around it! Bill continued to attempt to jerk his leg away, but the shark didn't let go until after several more seconds. Realizing what was happening, Bill yelled to Nathan, "Get out of the water!" Not ten feet from Bill was a little girl! Bill then rushed out of the water after Nathan. Upon reaching the shore, Cherie Roberts, Nathan's mom, instructed Bill to lie down on a towel. Bill watched as a man and his young son entered the water same spot where Bill was attacked, despite onlookers telling them to get out. Mrs. Roberts called for a lifeguard to help him, but the lifeguard was young and frantic, he asked "Is it a stingray?" even though there was a perfect bite mark right next to Bill's Achilles tendon. Mrs. Roberts realized this and called over another lifeguard. This young woman sent the younger lifeguard to get the beach car. The car brought Bill to a waiting ambulance; the EMTs placed Bill on the stretcher and hauled him to the ER. Bill underwent plastic surgery and received over seventy staples in his leg, luckily the shark missed Bill's Achilles which would've caused very serious damage. Another swimmer was not so lucky. An hour before Bill was attacked, a woman was attacked by a five-foot Black -Tip shark one mile up the beach; she lost a portion of her thigh. Fortunately, after two weeks of recovery, Bill was able to walk without aid. A month later, Bill was able to resume playing his favorite sport, baseball.



Bill and Nathan on the beach just minutes before the attack

Side view of Bill's leg upon arrival in the Hilton Head Hospital ER

Same view two months later.

FEATURES

The first bake sale of the year generated more than just funds for charity. The student body of the Junior School was introduced to the culinary talents of Harry Stewart. Harry's chocolate truffles were unbelievable! Therefore, the editors of Top of the Hill have asked Harry to create his own column. Bon Appetit!

Harry's Cooking Corner

By Harry Stewart

Recipe #1:
Apple Spice Cake

3 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
3/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
1/4 teaspoon ground allspice
1 3/4 pounds Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored, coarsely grated (Best if used with a food processor grating attachment
1 1/2 cups (3 sticks) unsalted butter, room temperature
1 1/2 cups sugar
1/2 cup (packed) golden brown sugar
1 teaspoon grated lemon peel
3 large eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice
Glaze
1/2 cup (packed) golden brown sugar
1/4 cup (1/2 stick) unsalted butter
1/4 cup whipping cream
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 teaspoon fresh lemon juice
1/4 teaspoon salt

Preheat oven to 325F. Spray 12-cup Bundt pan with nonstick spray. Sift flour and next six ingredients into medium bowl. Drain grated apples in strainer. Using hands, squeeze out excess liquid from apples. Measure 2 cups grated apples.
Using electric mixer, beat butter, both sugars, and lemon peel in large bowl until fluffy. Beat in eggs, 1 at a time. Mix in vanilla and lemon juice. Beat in flour mixture. Fold in grated apples. Transfer batter to prepared pan. Bake cake until tester inserted near center comes out clean, about 1 hour. Cool in pan on rack 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, prepare glaze:
Stir all ingredients in small nonstick skillet over medium-high heat until sugar dissolves and mixture comes to boil. Reduce heat to medium; whisk until glaze is smooth, about 1 minute. Remove from heat. Invert cake onto rack set over baking sheet. Using small skewer, pierce holes all over top of warm cake. Pour glaze over top, allowing it to be absorbed before adding more. Cool cake 30 minutes. Serve warm or at room temperature.

This recipe makes a great addition to Thanksgiving meals and stays moist for up to a week.

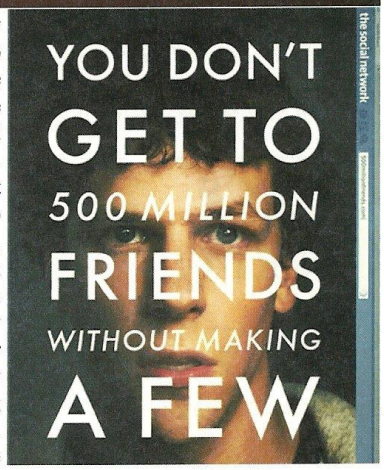
ENTERTAINMENT

The Social Network

By: Nathan Sharp

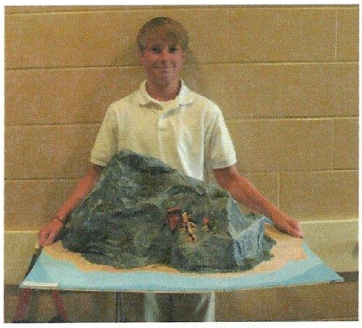
The Social Network is the story of Mark Zuckerberg, the creator of one of the most well- known and well-used websites in the world, Facebook. The movie begins with Mark (played by Jesse Eisenberg) trying to become recognized by a prestigious college club. Mark is an incredibly smart Harvard student and makes a perfect 1600 on his SAT. He has made other websites before, but nothing as big as Facebook.

The movie is confusing at first because it is switching between two lawsuits and flashbacks. As the movie continues, you figure out why Mark is being sued by two different people. The movie explains that Facebook was originally the idea of a different student. Mark was told about it and took the idea. This explains the first lawsuit by the Winklevoss twins (played by Josh Pence and Armie Hammer) who originated the idea of Facebook. The website, Facebook, was meant to be only for Harvard students who could join only if a friend invited them. Once the website was made, it almost instantly took off. After it began to succeed, Mark ran into Shawn Parker, the creator of Napster (played by Justin Timberlake). Shawn helps Mark with the website at first, then becomes greedy and tries to knock out Mark's partner Eduardo Saverin (played by Andrew Garfield). Shawn succeeds in driving apart the once friends and partners. Mark takes away Eduardo's share of the company and kicks him out of creator status. This is why his friend sued him. In real life, the Winklevoss twins won their lawsuit, getting 65 million dollars. Mark's "friend" Eduardo won his lawsuit gaining an undisclosed amount of money and he had his name restored to the Facebook page as a creator. Finally, Mark Zuckerberg became the youngest billionaire ever.

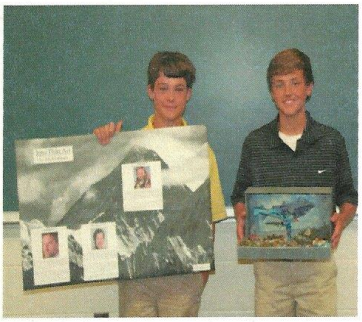


What I like about this movie is that it is based on the true story of the Facebook website. The movie can get a bit rough at times, but overall, it was a very well made and entertaining production. Lastly, after doing some research, I found that the movie is truly a very accurate account of the creation of Facebook. I really enjoyed it, and I recommend it. CAUTION: This it is not a family movie, so ask your parents before seeing it.

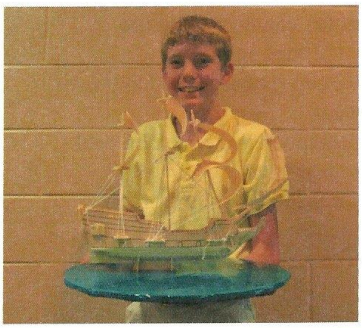
Seventh-Grade Projects



Nick Dreher



Jay Shackleford and Benjamin Graves

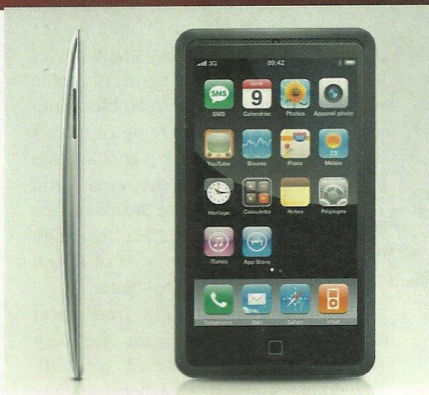


Devon Rundberg

ENTERTAINMENT

iPhone 4: The Good, The Bad, and The Bottom Line

By Harry Stewart



The new iPhone 4 has gotten a wide array of reception and reviews ever since its release in June of this year. Some people were tentative to purchase the phone, partially because there was a huge influx of news soon after its announcement about a serious glitch. This glitch caused service on calls to drop if the user were to touch the case in certain places.

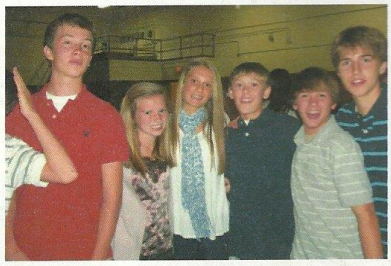
The Good: The new iPhone has loads of new features, like the ability to record video, multimedia messaging, voice dialing and operation, and other features common in most cell phones today. It also runs much faster, has much more memory space (up to 32gb, or 6,500 songs or 6,500 pictures or 450 minutes of the highest quality HD video), and a much longer battery life. Another feature is that it comes with the option of multitasking, better audio and video quality, and the same great LCD display.

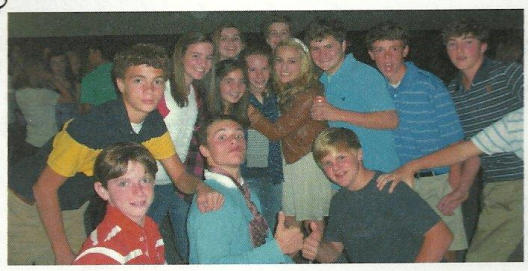
One new feature that uses the camera, called FaceTime, is like a webcam chat, but on the phone. It has received widespread acclaim, although some say the quality is not that great.

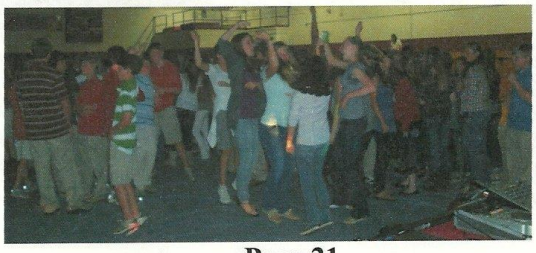
The Bad: Some critics are saying that the new iPhone is just an iPhone 3 with a camera on the screen side. Another possible downside to the iPhone is the "rim antenna" which is the phone's antenna around the rim of the phone. The problem with this feature is that, if touched in a certain spot while in a call, the reception is lost and the call dropped. However, this problem is easily fixed with a case for the phone. Also, the signal strength is still very spotty in some areas.

The Bottom Line: It is a great phone for someone who needs such things as GPS, internet, games, photos, videos, music, and countless other features (or it is great for somebody who loves new phones). I'd recommend it over most, if not all, smartphones.

Scenes from an Eighth-Grade Mixer







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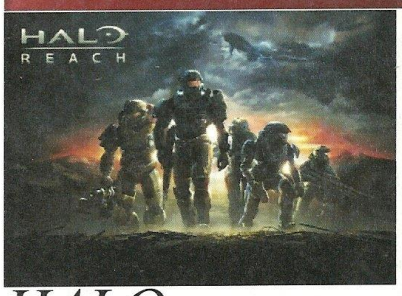


HALO REACH

By: Jackson Rich
Xbox live gamertag: jrich767

The *HALO* franchise has stood as an unshakable pillar in the gaming industry for a ridiculously long time, and *Halo Reach* is just one more block to be added to that pillar. *Halo Reach* is a first-person shooter that features a riveting single-player campaign, as well as a huge amount of online multiplayer. The storyline of the single-player game puts you in the shoes of Noble Six, a recent addition to Noble Team. The game has you fighting on planet Reach, a huge military planet and the last planet between the covenant and Earth. The covenant are the aliens that humanity is at war with. The campaign has you follow the invasion of Reach from first contact to final battle.

Reach is different from most other games, because from the very beginning, you know Reach will fall. The graphics are strange because they stray from typical realistic graphics and almost go into a hyper-real environment like the graphics in *Borderlands* or the *Fallout* franchise. However it's not quite as noticeable as in these games, and it still feels very real. I'm going to stop here with the single-player because if I went any more in-depth I would start to give away parts of the story-line.

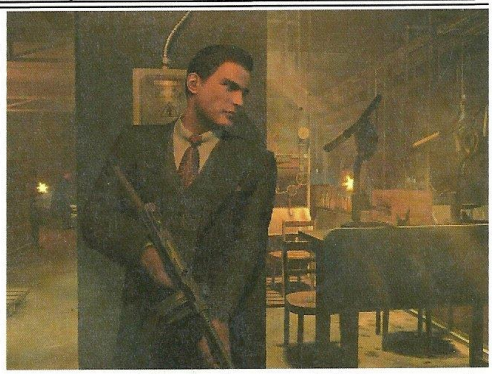
The multiplayer is also very fun, but I feel like it's very repetitive as far as online play goes. Sure, it's in a different time period so it has different weapons and vehicles, but the gameplay just feels boring because you're doing the same things again, and again, and again. I realize that technically you do that with all online games, but the *Halo Reach* multiplayer just feels shallow. One good feature of the online play, however, is that, unlike all other games, *Halo* lets multiple people on the same Xbox play against other people online.

Another feature that *Reach* has been getting a lot of hype about is the new forge mode. Forge is a tool that allows you to customize and create maps. The forge mode in *Halo 3* was cool and a good addition, but the controls felt clumsy, and it was often difficult to build things. Bungie, the developers of *Halo*, successfully managed to completely eliminate these problems with new controls and features in Forge, which is amazing. Unfortunately I don't have space to go in-depth into Forge, but let me say that it has definitely lived up to the hype. Overall, *Reach* is a good game, and if you're interested in futuristic games I would definitely look into it. I give *Halo Reach* an 8 out of 10 star rating.

MAFIA II

By: Jackson Rich
Xbox live gamertag: jrich767

Mafia II is a third-person free-roaming game that lets you play as Vito Scaletta, the son of an Italian immigrant. *Mafia II* is only single-player, which means that it has no online mode, but it more than makes up for that with its campaign. The story jump-starts you into an underground world of crooks, gangs, thugs, and general criminals that make up the Mafia. You start out doing small-time jobs, stealing a car, running errands, etc. but you soon find yourself in massive firefights and crazy situations.



My personal favorite level of the game was one that had you blow up part of a hotel where a rival gang was having a meeting, before rushing in with tommy guns blazing. Visually the game's graphics are stunning with a 1950's feel to all the buildings and era-realistic cars and weaponry. *Mafia II* had surprisingly few glitches for such a vast, open world, which made me very happy. The main drawback to this game was that the campaign was rather short, but the developers have already released some extra downloadable levels for the game, and more are certainly on the way. The game does have an "M" rating and some adult themes, so be aware of this if you are thinking about buying it. However, the game is one of my personal favorites of all time, and I give it a 9 out of 10 star rating.

FEATURES

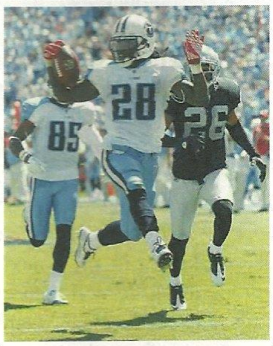
Bruce Pearl's Big Mistake

By Sam Carey

Everyone makes mistakes, but Bruce Pearl made a big one. During Pearl's assistant coaching career at The University of Iowa, he got involved with a recruiting aspersion with The University of Illinois. Both schools were trying to get Deon Thomas to commit to their program. Illinois was able to recruit him. Pearl then called Deon and asked him if he had been bribed by the assistant coach at Illinois, Jimmy Collins, to go to school there. According to Pearl, he had. In an NCAA investigation, Collins testified that Pearl wasn't being truthful about the situation. A lie detector caught the Coach lying about what happened. Pearl made the whole thing up and cracked under pressure. He made a mistake and had a chance to correct it, but instead he tried to hide from it. First of all, Pearl shouldn't have talked to Deon, but to lie to the NCAA when you are under oath is a major offense. Dick Vitale called Pearl's actions "career suicide." I'm not sure that Pearl will lose his job, but I will definitely think of him differently now. If Pearl were to lose his job, it wouldn't be good news for The University of Tennessee. UT has had enough problems in the past few years. The last thing they need is another issue with the law. Bruce Pearl and the rest of UT need to get their act together, because if they don't, the whole university will be in trouble.

Titans Through Game 6

By Steve Wood



The Titans had an okay start this season, but are beginning to show some improvement. Through Game 6, the Titans have posted a 4-2 record and are currently in a three-way tie for 1st in the AFC South with Indianapolis and Houston. The worst game the Titans have played this season came in Game 2 against the Pittsburgh Steelers. Chris Johnson was held to only 34 yards, and the Steelers had numerous sacks. On top of this, the Titans had 7 turnovers, making it almost impossible to win. However, the Titans were able to rebound and get a win the following week.

A major factor in the Titans' wins is getting Chris Johnson more than 100 yards. In Games 1, 3, 5, and 6, Johnson rushed for 142, 125, 131, and 111 yards, and the Titan's won the games. In both losses, though, Johnson rushed for only 34 and 53 yards. Johnson is currently second in the NFL with 596 rushing yards.

Another key factor to the Titans' wins is the improvement of wide receivers and the passing game. Wide-outs Nate Washington and Kenny Britt have both been consistent targets for Vince Young, who has also made a large improvement in his passing. Britt and Washington have combined for a total of seven touchdowns and 436 yards.

Based on the Titans' performance so far, I am predicting a 10-6 record this year and a spot in the playoffs. If Chris Johnson can reach 2,000 or more yards again this season, the Titans might be able to go 11-5.

Players to watch:

- Rookie Damian Williams (WR) is emerging as a reliable target and should grow into a great player.
- Michael Griffin (S) has 3 interceptions and 42 tackles, and is doing a great job covering the backfield
- The Titans defense as a whole leads the NFL with 24 sacks
- Chris Johnson (RB) Although it may look like defenses are shutting down CJ, he is still in 2nd in the league with 596 rushing yards and is still making big plays.
- Cortland Finnegan (CB) has 31 tackles, 3 sacks, and over $20,000 in fines.

(Stats provided by http://www.titansonline.com/team/statistics.html and http://www.nfl.com/stats/player)

Predators Preview

By Carter Lovvorn

The Nashville Predators are anxious to get back on the ice after their somewhat controversial end to the Preds' fight for the Stanley Cup. The Chicago Blackhawks defeated the Preds in six games. In game five, won by the Hawks, Marion Hossa, a member of Chicago, hurt Nashville's Dan Hamhuis. Many believe that Hossa should have been suspended for this; however, he was not and ended up being a huge contributor in game six to defeat the Predators.

The Predators have always been a scrappy team led by coach Barry Trotz. They will need leaders to step up this year like Shea Weber, the new captain. Coming off of his gold medal victory at the Olympic games, Shea seemed to feed from his experience in the games and really step up. He will look to continue where he left off this year. David Legwand, who has been with the Preds his whole career, will need to be a leader as well. Having been with the team for many years, Legwand knows Trotz's strategy well and will look to guide some of the newer, younger players.

The Preds acquired and dropped many players this year. One name known all around the city is Jason Arnott. He will be playing for the New Jersey Devils this year after being traded for Matt Halischuk and a second round draft pick. Earlier in the summer, key defenseman Dan Hamhuis was traded to Philadelphia for Ryan Parent who was recently traded by the Preds for Vancouver's Shane O'Brien. The team thinks that O'Brien will be that big, tough defenseman that the Preds need. Among other acquisitions, the Predators added Matthew Lombardi from the Phoenix Coyotes. Lombardi is one of the fastest skaters in the league, and the Preds think he will adapt to the line-up. The Preds' also acquired Jamie Lundmark from the Flames and Sergei Kostytsin from the Maple Leafs.

One of Nashville's greatest assets is their deadly defensive core. This includes Shea Weber, Ryan Suter, Francis Boullion, Shane O'Brien, Kevin Klein, and Cody Franson. This group of defencemen is one of the top groups in the league. It's the depth of skill that all six of these players have that can turn the tables in the middle of a hockey game. With Weber and Franson's slap shots and Suter and Boullion's defensive skills; the Preds will look to their defencemen as the strongest part of the line-up.

The Predators need three key forwards to play at the level they did last year. These are Martin Erat, Patrick Hornqvist, and Joel Ward. Joel Ward is one of Nashville's unsung heroes. He defines the team by being hard-nosed and going to the tough areas to score goals. Erat is said to have some of the best hands in the league. He can get a shot very quickly and find the back of the net often with his fast, accurate shot. Hornqvist likes to camp in front of the net. The Predators have needed a player like this and finally have one in Hornqvist. He scores on tips and rebounds and is a deadly player when in the blue paint.

A big component for the Preds to be successful is their seventh man, the crowd. When Bridgestone Arena fills to its capacity of 17,113 one can't even hear the person right next to them it is so loud. This energy feeds the players and makes them go all out for their fans.

The Preds are predicted to be about where they were last year in a fight to make the playoffs. They are said to finish around the eighth and final playoff spot. The Predators will most likely be in the playoffs, but it will be close. Last year though, the Preds were predicted to not be in the playoffs but made it. This shows how any team any year has a chance.

SPORTS

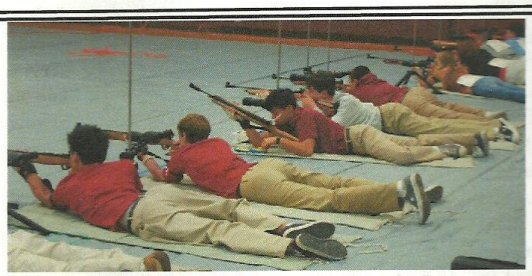
NFL Update and Predictions

By Aaron Kaplan

Statistic Leaders:
Passing yards – Philip Rivers
Rushing yards – Adrian Foster
Receiving yards – Brandon Lloyd
Tackles – LaRon Landry
Sacks- Clay Matthews
Interceptions – Charles Godfrey
Division Leaders:
AFC
North – Pittsburgh Steelers
South – Tennessee Titans, Houston Texans, Indianapolis Colts
East – New York Jets
West – Kansas City Chiefs
NFC
North – Chicago Bears
South – Atlanta Falcons, New Orleans Saints
East – New York Giants, Philadelphia Eagles
West – Arizona Cardinals, Seattle Seahawks

Recent News: Randy Moss (WR) has returned to the Vikings after being traded from the Patriots. The Patriots traded later with the Seahawks for Deion Branch (WR).
Brandon Meriweather, James Harrison, and Dunta Robinson were all fined for delivering hard hits from the helmet to several players during week six. The NFL will start giving suspensions for such actions, as they are dangerous to the players.
Season Start:The season has started off well for some teams and surprisingly not so well for others. The Jets have the most wins in the league with a 5-1 record. Teams such as the Chiefs, Redskins, and Seahawks have rebounded from not so great seasons last year. The Chiefs were the only remaining undefeated team before being defeated by the Colts. Teams such as the Cowboys and Chargers are not living up to expectations. Their playoff berths last season are not shown in their playing so far this season. Both superbowl teams, the Colts and Saints, continue to do well.
Predictions:
AFC
North – Baltimore Ravens
South – Indianapolis Colts
East – New York Jets
West – Kansas City Chiefs
Wild Card – Tennessee Titans, Pittsburgh Steelers
NFC
North – Chicago Bears
South – Atlanta Falcons
East – Philadelphia Eagles
West – Arizona Cardinals
Wild Card – New Orleans Saints, Green Bay Packers
AFC Champions – New York Jets
NFC Champions – Atlanta Falcons
Superbowl Champions – New York Jets

MBA Riflery: Prominent and Precise



By John Triplett

MBA riflery is a sport of winning tradition, precision, and prowess. Leo Lujan, the former varsity riflery coach, started and built up the program. The rifle program has won the state championship twelve out of the last thirteen years. MBA riflery has grown from nothing to one of the greatest programs in the country. Riflery involves shooting the center of a bullseye, which is about the size of a fly, from approximately the distance from the front chair in Massey Commons to the back chair. Competitors shoot three positions which are prone, standing, and kneeling. There are twenty shots in each position. MBA shooters compete against other boys and girls in riflery. Riflery is a very challenging sport and involves a great amount of mental focus.

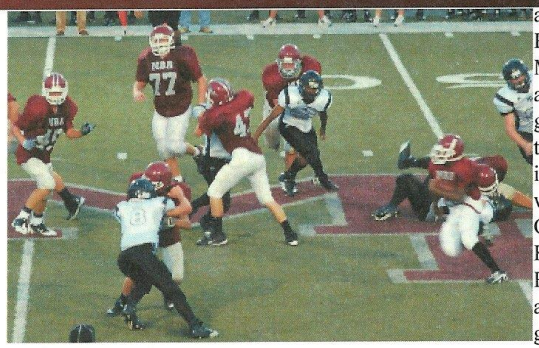
The MBA Rifle Classic is a very important rifle match in MBA's rifle program. This rifle match is the biggest high school and middle school match in the United States. Leo Lujan also started the MBA Rifle Classic. This year marks the sixteenth year of the match. The Classic was on October 15-17 this year, and the Classic provides about two thirds of the rifle program's funds for the year. Teams from over forty states came to Nashville to compete in the Classic, and approximately four hundred competitors shot this year. An exciting new development is an electronic range being built in the lower level of the new parking deck. The new range will hold the MBA Rifle Classic next year.

MBA riflery is one of the most dominant and greatest high school and middle school programs in the country. If basketball or baseball does not interest you, this sport might be the sport for you.

FOOTBALL

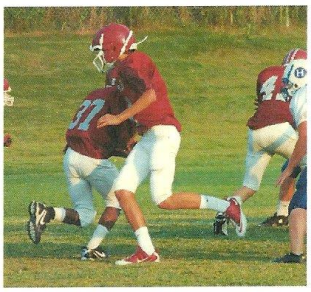
8th Grade Football: An Awesome Season

By William Richardson



Mike Lacey eyes the hole made by Austin Rolfe and William Richardson in the Mount Juliet game.

This year, the MBA 8th grade football team faced some tough opponents and played together well as a team. For the first contest, the Big Red traveled to Knoxville to play Knox Webb. The Big Red was victorious with two touchdowns scored by C.J. Sanders, winning 14-0. After this game, it was evident that although the season looked bright, there was much improvement needed. The second game was played against another team from Knoxville, Knox Fulton, in Tommy Owen Stadium. MBA, the victors, won 34-8 with tough running and great special teams. The third matchup, the most anticipated one so far, was against Mount Juliet. Scorers in the game were T.J. Jefferson, Mike Lacey, and C.J. Sanders. The MBA squad came out with an excellent victory 41-22 to improve their record to 3-0. Next, the Big Red travelled to BGA. Although they pulled out the win, this was probably the worst game played up to that point in the season. The team knew they faced a tough Whitthorne squad the next week, and needed to come out with improved energy.

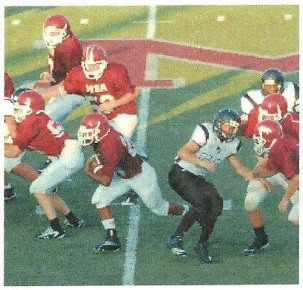


MC Poe hands the ball off to Tracey Mathis in the Harding game.

The Big Red started out against the largest middle school in the state with two long runs for touchdowns by Mike Lacey in the first half. The MBA defense played an excellent game led by Derrick Tusie and T.J. Jefferson at linebackers, and James Throckmorton and Ben Kelly who destroyed the opposing offensive line. The MBA team came out on top with a 20-8 victory.

The next week contained two games, the first one being against Harding Academy. This game was originally scheduled as a JV scrimmage, but Harding, thinking they could beat the Big Red, wanted to play the starting team. Despite a few key players missing the game because of academic problems, MBA's team came out on top, 36-14. For the second game that week, MBA played West Wilson Middle School, another undefeated team. With seven scores, the Wildcats were stunned, but the icing on the cake was the defensive shutout. The Big Red scored on offense, defense, and special teams, winning the game 48-0. This game crushed West Wilson's hopes of an undefeated season and was definitely the Big Red's best of the season. MBA played together as a team during the game, giving them the result they had wanted. Scorers in the West Wilson game were Derrick Tusie, Owen Powell twice, Kaden Freeman, Braxton Blackwell, TJ Jefferson, and John Tipps. The next game, and most hyped-up game of the season, was against Brentwood Academy.

The Big Red offense was slow in the first half, and failed to score before halftime. The halftime score was 7-0, BA. Then, in the fourth quarter, Derrick Tusie scored a touchdown, but a missed extra point put the Big Red down 7-6. There were mistakes made that should not have been that could have been the difference in the game. The Big Red ended up losing 7-6, with a final record of 7-1. Head Coach Will McMurray said about the season, "I was very proud of how hard the guys worked all season. Everyone showed improvement, and the future of MBA football is bright. There is a lot of talent, hard work, and speed in this class." The team would like to thank Head Coach McMurray, and Coaches Frazier, Pettus, McMahan, Green, and Swett for an excellent season.



Derrick Tusie explodes through a running lane in the Mount Juliet game.

FOOTBALL

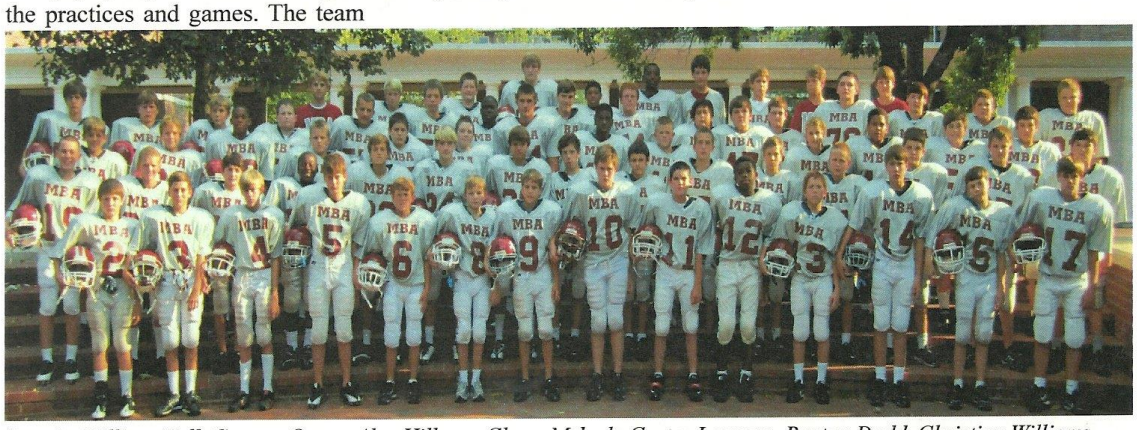
7th Grade Football: Hard Work Pays Off

By David Gaw

The 7th grade football team had a great season! The 2-4 record did not show how hard we played. Every player gave 110% during all the practices and games. The team changed a lot from the first game, a 0-20 loss at Coopertown, to the final game, a 22-18 win at BA. Our defense was stout all year. We were led by nose-guard D'On Coofer and linebackers Canaan Owens and Robert Garstin. Also, Taylor Asher had a interception that he returned for a touchdown against Nashville Catholic.

The offense struggled at the beginning of the season scoring points, but by the end, we had a lethal running and passing game. The running attack was led by Gabe Angel, Harold Turks, and Jack King. The passing assault was led by Will Eskew. His main targets were tight end Parker Bryan and receiver Chapman Malone. The season was capped by an awesome win at BA.

Our coaches did an excellent job working and preparing us. The head coach was Marc Ardisson. The line coach was Chris Smith. Backs were coached by John Paul Bernatavitz and receivers were coached by Marcus Piggee and Dan Cooper. Thank you coaches for all of your hard work. Roll Red!



Row 1: William Hall, Connor Oman, Alex Hilburn, Chase Meluch, Carter Lovvorn, Benton Dodd, Christian Williams, Jesse Turner, Grant Green, Daniel Smith, Max Turner, Conner Gray, Zac Jernigan, Winston Hewett.

Row 2: Will Eskew, Mark Floyd, Adrian Azar, Harold Turks, Benjamin Graves, Chapman Malone, Jack Malone, Jack King, Grayson Lester, Taylor Asher, Robert Dedman, Brodie Poe, Hayne Hamilton, David Gaw, Alec Whitson.

Row 3: Charles West, T. Whitton, Jordan Wilson, Sam Sullivan, Jackson Siktberg, Ryan Kosson, Gabe Angel, Darrius Southwell, Robert Garstin, Phelps Gambill, Adam Young, Stephen Richey, Sam Rhodes, Neil Richardson.

Row 4: Joe Noser, Hunt Smith, Devon Rundberg, Sam Galanter, Ross Bradshaw, Matt Hopp, D'On Coofer, Gray Adelman, Werner Bradshaw, Ethan Mowery, Hudson Coombs, John Kelly, Robert Chilton, Jim Garrett, K.P. Frazier.

Row 5: Christopher Saxon, Daniel Bishop, Cole Cross, Parker Bryan, Canaan Owens, Sam Curry, Will Norton, Dani Biegl, Glenn Coleman, Harrison Wachtler.

SPORTS

Microbe Varsity Golf: HVAC CHAMPS AGAIN!

By: Chris Byrne

The 2010 HVAC Golf Champions!!!!!!!

The nine man, all eighth -grade team, consisting of Chris Estes, John Hazen, George Hite, Geoffrey Holland, Bill Leftwich, Reid Parker, Gregory Quesinberry, Turner Smith, and Chris Byrne kept the dynasty alive. The season was hot, and the pressure was high. We practiced on flood-ruined courses, and we played tournaments in torrential downpours and on unfamiliar courses. The dual match record consisted of five wins and one loss.

The winning foursome: Bill Leftwich, Reid Parker, George Hite, and Chris Byrne with Coach Gabe Carro

In the end, however, Big Red won top HVAC honors by winning the 2010 HVAC golf tournament at Westhaven Golf Course. Representing the team were Hite, Leftwich, Parker, and Byrne. We edged out Ensworth and BA by two strokes. Our own George Hite took second place in the individual competition in a sudden death playoff.

The team was lead by Coach Carro whose instructions and suggestions made all the difference in the season. Though a stickler on driving, the short game, and putting, his focus on effort, perseverance, and gentlemanlike behavior took precedence. Together, Coach and each player, poured immense focus into each undertaking, and it was this effort that provided for a successful and memorable season.

Photo Courtesy of Mrs. Bianca Parker

CROSS COUNTRY

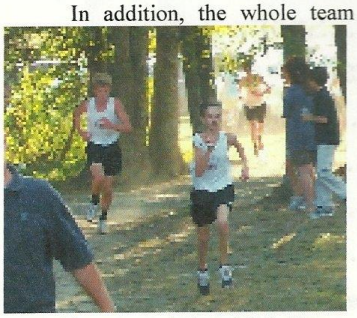
2010 HVAC Microbe Cross Country Champs!

HVAC Champions!!!!!

By Jacob Lothers

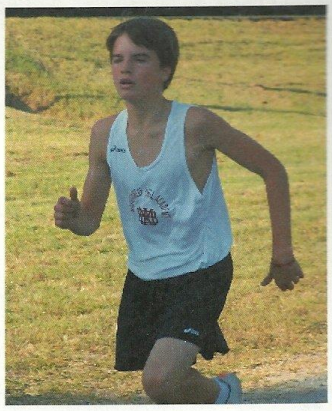
On Thursday, September 30th, the MBA Microbe Cross Country team won first place in the HVAC 1st Division Championship at Vaughn's Creek with a total of 28 points. USN came in second with 48 points, followed by Brentwood Academy, David Lipscomb, and St. Matthews. Our top five runners finished in the top eight, overall, and each ran a time under nine minutes: Richard Thornton came in 2nd place with a time of 8:13, Cole Jones came in 5th with a time of 8:32, Trice McCuller came in 6th with a time of 8:41, Will Pearson came in 7th with a time of 8:43, and William Snow came in 8th place with a time of 8:50. These guys ran hard that Thursday and were awarded medals after the race.

In addition, the whole team gave a huge effort, and almost everyone ran a personal record. After the race, and being drenched with what was left in the cooler, Coach Russell gave a heart-felt, teary-eyed speech about us all "conquering" our own "mountains," and he congratulated all of us on our great success.



Cole Jones and Trice McCullar

In the eighth grade, I want to congratulate Sam Bellet, Chip Brothers, Joseph Coakley, Nicholas Heim, Kang Huh, Diego Martinez, Michael Milam, Andrew Porter, Jackson Rich, Nathan Roberts, Jack Sonday, Anthony Swenson, Hunter Wims, and Luke Wooten. Also congratulations to seventh graders Charlie Bailey, Bronson Bell, Brandon Bennett, Will Blaufuss, Ryan Carpenter, Nick Dreher, Will Emerson, Grayson Fettroll, Drew Gordon, Hunter Hamilton, Conner Huff, Sam Jacobson, J.B. Lund, Wes Richardson, Matthew Robbins, Jordan Rosdeutscher, Richard Scherrer, Alec Vest, and Jackson Wooten, and thanks to Cameron Akrawi and Lawrence Rogers for their participation on the team and in previous meets. Also, great thanks to the coaches: Coach Russell, Coach Vaughan, Mr. Reynolds, Coach Bailey, and Mr. Ferrell. We also appreciate all of the parents' strong support and the cold drinks. Great job, guys, for a great race and a great season.



Richard Thornton

William Snow

Photos Courtesy of Mr. Ted Lothers

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